

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 564
By Gresham

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Dr. Jesse M. Price, Sr.,
of Somerville, Tennessee.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Dr. Jesse M. Price, Sr.; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Jesse Price was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Price served with acumen and alacrity as a pharmacist, in which position he earned the respect of his peers and superiors alike for the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, a native of the Williston community in Fayette County, Dr. Price was born to the late Jesse Elmer Price and the late Velma Morris Price; he moved with his parents to Somerville at an early age and was a graduate of Somerville High School in 1938; and

WHEREAS, while continuing his education at the University of Tennessee Center for Health Sciences, Dr. Price earned a degree in pharmacy in 1942; and

WHEREAS, from 1942 to 1946, Dr. Price was one such courageous Tennessean who served with distinction in World War II as one of those great Americans who earned the rightful designation of the "greatest generation"; during his time of service, he spent eighteen months in the European Theatre as a Captain in the medics department of the 558AA Batallion; and

WHEREAS, after his commendable service, Dr. Price returned to Somerville and was employed as a pharmacist for the Rhea Drug Company before establishing his own business, the Price's Drug Store on the downtown Somerville square that he operated from 1951 to 1982. Dr. Price was also a partner with his son in the Lakeview Pharmacy from 1975 to 1982; and

WHEREAS, even after retirement, he continued to serve as a pharmacist for the Somerville Health-care Center; and

WHEREAS, he devoted his life to actively serving in the business, religious, and political community affairs of Fayette County, and he was recognized as a long-time Trustee of the Union University in Jackson, where he served on the Board of Trustees for a meritorious twenty-one years; and

WHEREAS, this dedicated citizen served with distinction as a long-time member of the Somerville Lions Club and as an elected alderman for the Town of Somerville for eighteen years; during his tenure of service, he was active in the purchase of the previous Somerville City Hall building and served on committees that established the first full-time police chief for the community and purchased Somerville's first police car; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his many involvements and commitments, Dr. Price served as an elected member of the Fayette County Court from 1960 to 1978; during this period, he was Chairman of the budget committee and also Chairman Pro-tem of the court from 1965 to 1978; and

WHEREAS, he lent his many talents and time to help with the establishment of a hospital for Fayette County and was Co-Chairman of the committee that secured the Fayette County General Hospital; he served on the first Board of Trustees for the hospital and was Vice-Chairman of the building committee for the new facility. Dr. Price served for a number of years on the Advisory Board of the Methodist Hospital in Somerville; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Jesse Price was an active and devout member of the First Baptist Church, which he served faithfully for many years in numerous leadership positions, including acting as a Deacon since 1946, past Chairman of the deacon committee, and Director of the Sunday School Department, and he was an active member of the building committee and the pulpit committee of the church; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Price was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Jesse M. Price enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife, Hazel Sloan Price, and was the proud parent of Dr. Jesse M. Price, Jr., and his wife, Maria; and

WHEREAS, this remarkable man will be greatly missed by his sister, Irene Price Sanders and his three grandchildren Stephen Price, Jason Price, and Jessica Price; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Jesse Price leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Dr. Jesse M. Price, Sr., reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Dr. Jesse M. Price, Sr.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.